

MAR 13 2015

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A SUBSTANCE ABUSE
TASK FORCE.

1 WHEREAS, the fiscal and social costs of substance abuse and
2 disorders on Hawaii's health care system are unsustainable; and
3

4 WHEREAS, while the cycle of substance abuse is a financial
5 and social burden on the State's health care system, it is also
6 a treatable disease; and
7

8 WHEREAS, recent studies in the science of addiction have
9 led to significant advances in drug abuse treatment that help
10 people successfully manage their addictions and resume
11 productive lives; and
12

13 WHEREAS, research has shown that approximately seventy
14 percent of addiction and mental health costs can be averted by
15 effectively providing treatment before the onset of more serious
16 chronic conditions; and
17

18 WHEREAS, the issue of how to deal with marijuana has been
19 the subject of recent consideration within the Legislature; and
20

21 WHEREAS, in the Regular Session of 2015, the Legislature
22 has considered measures to legalize marijuana, decriminalize
23 marijuana, and establish medical marijuana dispensaries; and
24

25 WHEREAS, the Legislature has also considered S.B. No. 1036
26 during the Regular Session of 2015, which would establish a task
27 force within the Department of Health to address health care and
28 payment reform steps to implement an effective addiction
29 treatment system as a component of health care to improve
30 outcomes and reduce overall health care costs; and
31

32 WHEREAS, the Legislature has been asked to consider
33 implementing the Uniform Collateral Sanctions and
34 Disqualifications Act that would, among other things, require
35 courts to advise defendants of the collateral sanctions
36 triggered by a plea and provide for certificates of



1 rehabilitation, which would allow qualifying individuals to have
2 rights restored; and

3
4 WHEREAS, studies indicate that in some states, marijuana
5 offenders can avoid a criminal conviction by successfully
6 completing a diversion program or entering a deferred entry of
7 judgment; and

8
9 WHEREAS, this body believes that the task force established
10 by the Department of Health would be well situated to review the
11 Uniform Collateral Sanctions and Disqualifications Act and
12 report back with recommendations; now, therefore,

13
14 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
15 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015,
16 that the Department of Health is requested to convene a
17 substance abuse task force to address health care and payment to
18 implement an effective addiction treatment system and justice
19 system reform steps to reduce the toll of collateral sanctions,
20 with the goal of improving overall outcomes and reducing the
21 financial and social costs of drug use; and

22
23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to:

- 24
25 (1) Provide multi-disciplinary teams to review and
26 recommend policy changes in state and insurer systems
27 for substance use disorders;
28
29 (2) Utilize the federal model of recovery-oriented system
30 of care as outlined by the Substance Abuse and Mental
31 Health Services Administration;
32
33 (3) Continue to integrate primary health care with
34 addiction treatment by providing education and
35 training to primary care providers on screening, brief
36 interventions for mild or moderate substance use
37 disorder conditions, and referrals to specialized
38 substance use disorder treatment for moderate to
39 chronic conditions;
40



- (4) Develop a treatment program for mild to moderate conditions for substance use disorders and co-occurring disorders;
- (5) Support transitional care management for emergency rooms to deal with patients with chronic substance use disorders or co-occurring disorders;
- (6) Ensure Quest members and uninsured patients have adequate access to all modalities of substance abuse treatment, including residential, day treatment, and outpatient treatment, that meets minimum levels of utilization according to medical necessity;
- (7) Develop offender re-entry programs that target offenders with chronic substance use disorders or co-occurring disorders so that needed services can be accessed immediately;
- (8) Design payment reform models for reimbursement that adequately address the complex care needed for super users or other chronic conditions of substance use disorders or co-occurring disorders and that promote collaboration and consider risk adjustments;
- (9) Determine the additional amount of funding needed to improve outcomes and reduce overall health care spending by providing funding for all modalities, including residential, day treatment, intensive outpatient, outpatient, and aftercare, for substance use disorders, co-occurring disorders, criminality, dual services, case management, peer mentoring, and recovery-oriented services; and
- (10) Examine the Uniform Collateral Sanctions and Disqualifications Act and make policy recommendations on whether the Legislature should adopt the Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health request the following persons to participate in the task force:



- (1) The Director of Health or the Director's designee, who shall serve as the chairperson of the task force;
- (2) One member of the House of Representatives, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- (3) One member of the Senate, to be appointed by the President of the Senate;
- (4) The Director of Human Services or the Director's designee;
- (5) The Director of Public Safety or the Director's designee;
- (6) One member representing the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition, to be invited by the chairperson of the task force;
- (7) One member representing the Hawaii Medical Association, to be invited by the chairperson of the task force;
- (8) One member representing the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine's Department of Psychiatry;
- (9) One member representing the Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii;
- (10) One member representing a Hawaii inpatient or emergency room hospital, to be invited by the chairperson of the task force; and
- (11) Any other member as assigned by the task force; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force submit a preliminary report of its progress to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2016; and




1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force submit a final
2 report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no
3 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular
4 Session of 2017; and

5
6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be dissolved on
7 June 30, 2017; and

8
9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
10 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director of Health,
11 Speaker of the House of Representatives, Senate President,
12 Director of Human Services, Director of Public Safety, Hawaii
13 Substance Abuse Coalition, Hawaii Medical Association, Chair of
14 the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine's
15 Department of Psychiatry, and Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii.

16
17
18 OFFERED BY:


Michelle Tidani
